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App. No. 10/065,992  
Amendment dated October 5, 2005  
Reply to Office action of July 5, 2005

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (canceled)**

**Claim 2 (currently amended):** The surface-coated machining tool set forth in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 4, wherein said predetermined thickness of said compound thin film is 0.05  $\mu\text{m}$  or more and 3  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

**Claim 3 (canceled)**

**Claim 4 (currently amended):** A surface-coated machining tool, comprising:  
a cemented-carbide base material containing tungsten carbide and cobalt,  
with the cobalt inclusion amount being 4 weight % or more and 12 weight % or less;  
and

coated to a given thickness in at least a single layer over said cemented-  
carbide base material, a compound thin film made up of a combination of, in given  
elemental proportions, one or more elements selected from the group titanium,  
chromium, vanadium, silicon and aluminum, and one or more elements selected  
from carbon and nitrogen; wherein

said compound thin film is vapor-deposited onto said base material  
under reaction-gas pressure, base-material bias voltage, and deposition-  
temperature conditions that, together with said given thickness and said given  
elemental proportions, are predetermined so as to impart a compressive